

Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Newsletter November 2010

What's new?

Did you know that there is a volunteer recognition bulletin board in the Visitor Center now? There are lots of great photos featuring volunteers doing amazing things to support the refuge and we have our amazing volunteer photographers to thank for these photos! Carrying on the tradition, the Wild About Life lecture series is underway so keep reading to find out about the next one. There are plenty of opportunities for volunteers to help out with Environmental Education in the upcoming months. Take advantage and help your fellow community members, kids, students and scouts get outside and connect with nature at the Refuge!



Cheers!

Many thanks to all of our wonderful Creepy Critter Encounter volunteers; Teresa, Dave, Diane, Callie, Garrison, Cecilia, Kelsee, Kristin, Robert, Jake and the Job Corps folks. Although it threatened rain the whole time it held off until right at the end and was an absolute spooky success. We couldn't have done it without you! Thanks to the Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge for putting on a festive celebration on Oct. 9th for National Wildlife Refuge Week. With what seemed like twenty falconers displaying their beautiful birds and Teddy Roosevelt wandering around there wasn't a moment to be missed!

Around the water cooler...

The CCP planning process is chugging right along with the development of vision, goals and objectives. Even with the doors closed and constant tap tap tap of fingers on keyboards, the staff still has time to welcome new volunteers into the fold. Addison the wildlife biologist is conducting the annual waterfowl surveys and new this year is deer spotlight surveys. Keep reading the newsletters to hear updates on both and possible opportunities for volunteers to get involved.



November 2010 Upcoming Events:

Wild About Life Lecture Series: Tuesday, November 9th starting at 7:00pm
An introduction to Celebration Park. Tom Bicak the Director of Canyon County Parks, Recreation and Waterways will be speaking about Idaho's only archaeological park located along the Snake River south of Melba. Learn about the rich history, geology and cultures of this beautiful area.

Volunteer Awards Luncheon: Saturday, November 13th starting at 12pm.
For volunteers that served between October 2009 and September 2010. Refuge staff will be honoring volunteers at Buffalo Wild Wings Restaurant located at 2101 North Cassia Street in Nampa right off of Karcher Road and next to the Edwards Cinema. We will be showering you with appreciation for all that you do as volunteers for the Refuge. Buffet lunch and soft drinks will be provided so come hungry! If you received an invitation, **RSVP by Monday, November 8th.**

November 2010 Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

Environmental Education Outreach (1 volunteer) *New opportunity!

Tuesday, November 16th and Thursday, November 18th from 6:00-7:30pm. Join the Environmental Education Specialist Claire Deters to deliver a stellar outreach program at two schools in Caldwell. Training will be provided. **Deadline to register: Friday, November 5th**

Planning Update Labeling (5-10 volunteers)

Monday, November 29th from 9am-12pm. Help place address labels on more than 500 planning updates for the CCP. These updates will go out to Refuge neighbors, community members and interested individuals. **Snacks and drinks provided!** **Deadline to register: Friday, November 19th**

Scout Day (3-4 volunteers per month)

1st Saturday of every month from 1-3pm. **Upcoming dates: December 4th, January 8th and February 5th.** A free environmental education opportunity for Scouts to earn various wildlife-related badges. Volunteers lead programs that include nature crafts and a short hike. No experience necessary—only enthusiasm and a willingness to learn! **Deadline to express interest for December 4th Scout Day: Monday, November 15th**

Winter Day Camp (2-3 volunteers for 2 days)

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 28th and 29th from 1-4pm. Do squirrels have sleeping bags? Do bears have space heaters? Do geese eat at restaurants? Help teach children in second through fourth grades about hibernation, migration and the challenges of survival in winter. No experience necessary, training will be provided. **Deadline to express interest: Monday, November 1st**

Unless otherwise stated, all activities take place at the Visitor Center of Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge. If you are interested in finding out more information or participating in any of the above programs, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at deerflat@fws.gov or (208)-467-9278.



Thanks again and see you at the refuge!

Lauren Roden, Volunteer Coordinator

